

Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC)- **SB 823 Subcommittee Meeting**
 February 10, 2021, 1:30p.m.
 Teleconference & Go To Meeting Participation Only
 Meeting Minutes

MEMBERS	Agency	Present	Absent
Tracie Neal	Probation	X	
Ben Hannah	District Attorney's Office	X	
Kathryn Barton	Public Defender's Office	X	
Cindy Lane	HHSA/Social Services	X	
Laura Stapp	HHSA/Mental Health	X	
Mary Lord	Shasta County Office of Education	X	
Cindy Van-Schooten	Shasta County Superior Court		X
Michael Burke	Pathways to Hope	X	
Cindy Vogt	California Heritage Youth Build Academy	X	
Valery Hartley	Shasta ILP	X	
GUESTS Present		*****	*****
Erin Bertain	Probation		

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. A quorum was present. Introductions were made.

Public Comment

None

Approval of meeting minutes

None

Financial Report

None

Discussion Items

Discuss DJJ Realignment and SB 823

Tracie explained the purpose of this initial meeting was to discuss Senate Bill 823 and DJJ Realignment. Tracie said the intent of SB 823 is to ultimately close the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ). She stated intake will close 7/1/21 which means following that date, any youth sentenced to DJJ will remain with the county and no longer be accepted to DJJ. She said DJJ will serve the youth who have been booked prior to this date and will close all three facilities and the fire camp by July 30, 2023.

Tracie provided a brief history of state youth detention facilities. She said youth have been detained by the state since the 1850's. She stated in 1941 the Youth Correctional Authority Act was adopted and later modified to the California Youth Authority (CYA) focusing on a military and camp approach for youth needing detention at the state level. She said by 1996, the population at CYA facilities exceeded 10,000 youth. She explained in 2004, *Farrell v. Allen Consent Decree* was filed with the court resulting in a major overhaul of the entire CYA system. She said in 2004, CYA was reorganized and became the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) within the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR). She continued by saying in 2007, Senate Bill (SB) 81 and Assembly Bill (AB) 191 were signed requiring most youthful offenders to be committed to county facilities, reserving those convicted of the most serious felonies and having the most severe treatment needs for DJJ. She said Facilities began to close due to decreased population and currently there are three facilities and one youth conservation camp with a total population of about 780 individuals. She reported a fact sheet authored by the Center on Juvenile and Criminal Justice (CJCJ) estimated the state cost of detention for a DJJ youth at \$317,711 per youth in FY 2017/18.

She discussed proposals from Governor Newsom to either close DJJ or move DJJ to the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) in an effort to establish an approach that was treatment based. She stated most recently, Governor Newsom included the closure of DJJ as part of his May 2020 Revise Budget and following Legislative Hearings Governor Newsom signed SB 823. She said the announcement was unexpected. Michael Burke noted the significant cost to detain a youth in DJJ of \$317,711. Tracie clarified that even though the state recognizes how much it costs to treat a DJJ youth, they are recommending transferring significantly less funding to the counties while transferring the same level of responsibility.

Tracie talked about the creation of a new state office, the Office of Youth and Community Restoration under DHHS, which will open July 1, 2021, to oversee the treatment/care of the youth and create an Ombudsman. She explained BSCC will still be responsible for the inspection of the facilities. She said a key element of SB 823 is the development of a plan for how these youth will be served at the county level which is one of the main purposes of this subcommittee.

Jeremy Kenyon talked about the offenses for which a youth can be sentenced to DJJ and specified 707(b) offenses, which are the most egregious offenses, are the only charges for which a youth can be sentenced to DJJ.

Carla Stevens discussed JRF Implementation strategies. She indicated, focusing on treatment and rehabilitative services would be the focus of this program. She discussed the JRF physical plant and explained how the DJJ youth would be housed and receive treatment and services. Ben Hanna asked for some clarification about the housing specifically if the DJJ youth would be housed with other JRF youth. Carla answered in the affirmative but specified that the youth would have their own rooms and would be in programming separate from the non-DJJ youth. Tracie Neal said DJJ has a nationally recognized sexual offender treatment program and indicated filling the need for this type of treatment will be a challenge. She reported that Probation is currently exploring the options available with the current medical provider and has issued an RFQ for treatment services.

Tracie talked about SB 823 and the intent to keep youth in the Juvenile Justice system rather than transferring to adult. She indicated this will need to be part of the plan.

Jeremy talked about the current process of DJJ Parole and re-entry planning which includes a Probation Officer being involved in periodic conversations while a youth is in DJJ but not being involved in the treatment. He said currently Probation only becomes involved when a youth has been granted Parole.

He said Probation then supervises the youth until they are scheduled to terminate their Parole, which can be until they are 25 years old.

Tracie shared the estimated allocations for Shasta County for the next 3 years is less than what it currently costs the state to house these youth. She stated BSCC has over \$9 million dollars in grant funds to help with implementation which Shasta County has completed a survey and has expressed interest in applying for with the BSCC.

Chelsey Chappelle asked for volunteers to form a smaller workgroup to discuss ways to keep youth in the juvenile system. Kathryn Barton and Ben Hanna agreed.

Carla Stevens asked for volunteers to form a smaller workgroup to help develop the program especially in regard to treatment. Valerie Hartley, Cindy Vogt, Michael Burke, and Laura Stapp agreed.

Action Items

None

Next meeting schedule

April 14, 2021 – 1:30 p.m.

Individual comments from Subcommittee Members

None

Adjourn

Ben Hannah moved to adjourn the meeting; Cindy Vogt seconded; 9 Ayes; 0 Noes; Motion passed.